

**National Latino Mini-Conference on Aging  
Post Event Report Summary**

**Name of Event:** National Latino White House Mini-Conference on Aging

**Date of Event:** May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2005

**Location of Event:** The Life Project-Senior Development Center, 2500 Curry Ford Road, Orlando, Florida 32806

**Number of Persons Attending:** 153

**Percentage of Seniors:** 85%

**Sponsoring Organization(s):** The Life Project-Senior Development Center, Senior Resource Alliance-Area Agency on Aging, Orange County Commission on Aging, Orange County Health & Family Services, University of Florida, Social Security Administration

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**Conference Agenda-Speakers and Topics:**

**Moderator:** Nancy Sharifi- Deputy Director FannieMae

**Dr. Miguel Lopez Executive Director-** Invocation

**Orange County Mayor Richard Crotty-**Welcome

**Mario Tapia-** CEO Latino Gerontological Center

**Sarah Ritzman –Senior Resource Alliance the Area Agency on Aging**

**Topic:** Growth of Senior Community / Need for Culturally Sensitive Services

**Ron Taylor – Department of Elder Affairs-Director of SHCBS**

**Topic:** Access to Available Services for Minorities

**Carlos Morales-State Attorneys Office**

**Topic:** Fraud Prevention

**Magaly Freytes-University of Florida**

**Topic:** Caregiver Education & Support

**Victor Alvarado-Housing & Urban Development**

**Topic:** Affordable Housing

**Dr. Ann Manley – Dr. Phillips Charities / Commission on Aging**

**Topic:** Community Needs and Service Implementation

**State Representative Sheri McInvale**

**Topic:** Advantage & Disadvantages of Medicare Part D

**Nede Mansour-Social Security Administration**

**Topic:** Social Security & Medicare Benefits

**Ann Kujawa- Lutheran Services of Florida**

**Topic:** Seniors & Immigration)

**Attorney Evaristo Martinez –Catholic Immigration & Refugee Services**

**Topic:** Citizenship and Immigration Law

**Dr. Alejandro Aparicio-White House Conference on Aging**

**Topic:** What is the Purpose of the WHCoA

Breakouts & Roundtable Discussion

**Priority Issue # 1**

(Marketplace) Lack of Affordable Housing, and access to Services

- 1) More incentives to build Senior Housing
- 2) Accessible information for Senior about Affordable Housing
- 3) Planned communities that address Senior's needs. Promote living communities where Seniors have access to medical centers, cultural and recreation centers, shopping and markets.
- 4) Avoid displacement of Seniors
- 5) Cost of Housing is prohibitive, expand Section 8.
- 6) Increased incentives for builders to build Affordable Housing
- 7) Tax incentives for private investors to rent to low income and Seniors, tied to properly maintained property.
- 8) Increased Supervision in Senior Developments
- 9) More information about reverse mortgages.

- 10) Innovative housing option to address the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century family,  
(i.e. multigenerational families)
- 11) Increase number of Medicaid/Medicare beds in Nursing Home Facilities.
- 12) Culturally sensitive housing options

### **Priority Issue # 2**

(Health And Long Term Living) Access to Affordable High Quality Services

- 1) Cost of Medication is prohibitive.
- 2) Clear up confusion for Seniors to choose between generic medicine and Brand names.
- 3) Use Medicare card as a card that offers addition discounts for other services. (i.e. transportation, cultural, etc.)
- 4) Increased education about Living Wills, Advance Directives, Power of Attorney, and Healthcare Proxy.
- 5) Increased coverage of preventative measures for a variety of Health related problems.

### **Priority Issue # 3**

(Planning along the Lifespan) Protection of Financial Assets

- 1) We are concerned about the future and grandchildren. We must preserve social security.
- 2) While we may consider different type of social security plans, some families are so low income that they will never be able to save or manage a retirement account.

### **Priority Issue #4**

(Our Community) Quality of Life

- 1) Funding for Senior centers, is critical for the well-being of the Senior community.
- 2) Bring doctors to the Seniors Homes (Give incentive)
- 3) Funding for caregivers who sacrifice their work, health insurance, etc. to stay home to care for the sick/frail family member.

- 4) Consumer fraud among Seniors is rampant, increase penalties or make illegal for solicitors to target Seniors.
- 5) Promote cultural awareness and support diversity training among Senior programs for more culturally sensitive and appropriate services.
- 6) More Spanish speakers are needed in key services, including government agencies and additional Outreach activities in Spanish.
- 7) Increased need for reliable low cost public transportation